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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 5225.0259

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
TOMOHIRO SAITO ET AL.) Group Art Unit: 2891
)
Application No.: 10/770,520) Examiner: C. Everhart
)
Filed: February 4, 2004) Confirmation No.: 1739
)
For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING)
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES)

Mail Stop Issue Fee

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(d), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after a Notice of Allowance but before payment of the Issue Fee and is accompanied by a fee of \$180.00 as specified under § 1.17(p) and a certification as specified under § 1.97(e). Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

Each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a Notification of Reasons for Rejection issued by the Japanese Patent Office, on May 30, 2006, in a counterpart Japanese application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within thirty days of the mailing date of that communication. In accordance

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with 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d), no negative patent term adjustment consequences will apply to this Information Disclosure Statement.

Copies of the listed foreign and non-patent literature documents are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

In lieu of a statement of relevance of the non-English documents, an English language translation of the Notification of Reasons for Rejection issued by the Japanese Patent Office in the counterpart Japanese application citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof is enclosed. In addition, English-language abstracts of all of the foreign documents are provided. Further, complete English-language translations of Japanese Publication Nos. 2000-315789, 10-303410, and 09-082958 are provided.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

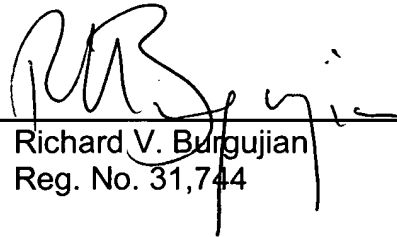
Respectfully submitted,

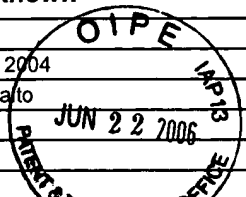
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: _____

6/22/06

By: _____


Richard V. Burgujian
Reg. No. 31,744

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;"> INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT </div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;"> <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> </div>				Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/770,520		
		Filing Date	February 4, 2004		
		First Named Inventor	Tomohiro Saito		
		Art Unit	1739		
		Examiner Name	C. Everhart		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	5225.0259

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials ⁷	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ⁷	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		JP 2000-315789	11/14/00	Toshiba Corp.		Yes
		JP 10-303410	11/13/98	Sony Corp.		Yes
		JP 9-082958	3/28/97	Matsushita Electric Ind Co Ltd.		Yes
		JP 59-114868	7/3/84	Toshiba Corp.		Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ⁷	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		Notification of Reasons for Rejection issued by the Japanese Patent Office on May 30, 2006, for Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-300446, and English-language translation thereof	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.